

Appln. No. 11/722,920
Amdt. dated May 6, 2005
Response to Office Action of April 6, 2005

Docket No. 98005.00012

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 were pending in this application. This amendment responds to the first Office Action, which identifies two patentably distinct subcombinations of the subject invention, and requires election of a single invention for prosecution on the merits.

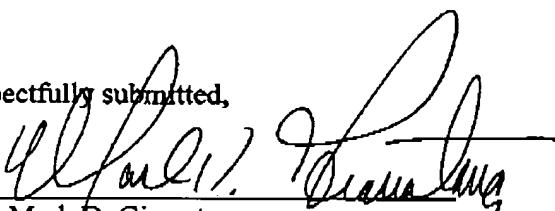
In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action dated April 6, 2005, Applicant elects to prosecute Group I, which includes claims 1-34 and 40-42. This election is made without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue coverage of the non-elected claims in divisional application(s). By this amendment, claims 35-39 have been canceled, and corresponding amendments made to the claim listing in the specification. Accordingly, claims 1-34 and 40-42 are currently pending in this application.

The elected claims are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned. If the Examiner has any questions in connection with this paper, or otherwise if it would facilitate the examination of this application, please call the undersigned at the telephone number below.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1402.

Respectfully submitted,

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